

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A tilt steering apparatus for a vehicle, comprising:
 - a lower steering shaft of which low end being mounted with a steering gear;
 - 5 an upper steering shaft of which top end being mounted with a steering wheel;
 - a universal joint for jointing a top end of the lower steering shaft with a low end of the upper steering shaft;
 - a lower column member fixed to a vehicle body for supporting the lower steering shaft to be pivotable;
 - 10 an upper column member for supporting the upper steering shaft to be pivotable; and
 - a tilt lock mechanism for tilt locking the upper column member to the lower column member, wherein the top end side of the upper column member is closed and
 - 15 the tilt lock mechanism is comprised of:
 - a fixed gear attached to the lower column member;
 - a movable gear attached to a top end side of the upper column member in such a manner to be pivotable;
 - slots perforated on both sides (left and right) of the upper column member;
 - 20 and
 - a wedge member disposed at the slots for tooth-locking the movable gear to the fixed gear by pressing the movable gear.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - 25 a hook piece mounted on the wedge member, to encompass a lower end side

of the movable gear

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the wedge member comprises:

- 5 a wedge piece mounted on the hook piece;
- a groove formed on a rear surface of the wedge piece;
- a plate disposed at the slot; and
- a protrusion formed on a front surface of the plate to be fit in the groove.

10 4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the protrusion is loosely received in the groove.

5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the wedge piece is attached to the plate in such a manner to be able to rotate back and forth.

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6. The apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 5, wherein a rear end side of the upper column member on which the tilt lock mechanism is mounted is further closed.